

The Intelligencer.

Office: Nos. 25 and 27 Fourteenth Street.
 This agitation is on the increase. The Government has now seven regiments of cavalry, eleven batteries of artillery, and twenty-five battalions of infantry in Ireland, the whole force consisting of 30,000 men.

Our neighbors in Jefferson county, Ohio, carried off the Cleveland-Governorship yesterday in the person of Senator Richards and took the premium. We congratulate them.

The exhibit made by the New York Public in our dispatches this morning as to the business of the country for May shows a month unprecedented in the history of the country. This is another illustration of the fact that still water runs deep. There is apparently no rush and tumble in trade in any city of the country, but the aggregate of buying and selling is nevertheless immense. The country is vast, the volume of money very great, and the exchangeable products of the land extraordinary in amount. The year 1881 will rank as one of wide spread prosperity and progress.

We are indebted to the Census office at Washington for a bulletin showing the shifting from decade to decade of the centre of population in this country, beginning with the census of 1790. For three decades this centre remained within the territorial limits of West Virginia, and hugged the 36th parallel of latitude very closely, as it has steadily done from the very outset. The following table will show how the centre has moved along on this line each ten years:

| Year | Approximate Location. | Westward Movement in Miles. |
|------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1790 | 23 miles S. of Baltimore, Md. | 41 |
| 1800 | W. of W. of Washington, D. C. | 41 |
| 1810 | W. of W. of Washington, D. C. | 41 |
| 1820 | W. of W. of Washington, D. C. | 41 |
| 1830 | W. of W. of Washington, D. C. | 41 |
| 1840 | W. of W. of Washington, D. C. | 41 |
| 1850 | W. of W. of Washington, D. C. | 41 |
| 1860 | W. of W. of Washington, D. C. | 41 |
| 1870 | W. of W. of Washington, D. C. | 41 |
| 1880 | W. of W. of Washington, D. C. | 41 |

The foregoing table shows that during the past twenty years the center of population has moved 457 miles, being at the rate of about 4.57 miles per annum. The accurately ascertained center for 1880 is 26 miles south of the old observatory, Mount Adams, Cincinnati, and 8.9 miles west of it.

The old adage about too much of a good thing, to the effect that "it never rains but it pours," has been exemplified in this region lately. Rain is a good thing, but at the same time Jupiter Pluvius has apparently overdone the thing, and the consequence is that a good deal of damage is reported this morning, in our local climate, as the result of Tuesday night's severe rain storm. The most lamentable incident connected therewith is the terrible catastrophe that happened to a poor family on Glen's Run, whereby a woman and five of her children lost their lives, and the father was swept away on a log to the head of one of the Sister Islands, below the mouth of the run, where he was found yesterday in an insensible condition. This was a tragedy indeed—one of the most terrible character to the surviving bereft victim.

The trains were all of time yesterday owing to the damage done to the road beds, and it will be some days before the status quo is restored. The crops also were injured, a good deal of wheat being thrown down and imbedded in the mud. A good deal of injury was done to the country roads, and bridges, fences, &c., and a number of meadows and cornfields overwaded. The character of the storm was shown in the almost unusable condition of the river water early yesterday morning. It was literally thick with sand and mud. The country on both sides of the river had been denuded of its soil to an unusual extent, and it was swept into the stream like so much mortar.

There has probably been no season for years past when the ground was saturated to a greater depth than now. The fear of the farmers is that the murky condition of the soil is such that it will take into a crust underneath the scorching rays of the sun, and thus choke the corn and growing vegetables. As for the grass, it never stood thicker or better on the ground than it does now. Taking 100 as a maximum condition, the crop will easily rate at 105 to 110 this year. A gentleman from Washington county, where hay is the great crop, says that the surplus for export this year will be unprecedented in the history of the country.

The Wheat Crop.
 The efforts of the Chicago bulls to get up a boom in wheat do not succeed very well. The price goes up one day and down the next. Yesterday was an off-day. The people cannot be made to take much stock in a wheat scare.

The acreage of grain in the United States is altogether too wide in extent to be materially affected by either a partial or even a total failure in a few localities. To show the absurdity of the arguments of the alarmists that because a hurricane destroys the crops in Wisconsin the aggregate yield of the whole country will be greatly cut down, we have only to state that in 1880 there were employed in the production of the cereal crops in the United States 108,000 acres of land, and these acres were watered over an area of 3,000,000 square miles. Twenty-five States produced over 1,000,000 bushels of wheat each. New York, at the eastern limit, producing about 13,000,000 bushels, and California, at the extreme west, nearly 40,000,000. It is absurd to suppose that a territory as wide in extent as the United States, with its varying temperature and climates, will not always yield in the aggregate a large surplus for export purposes.

Companion by sections of the wheat product of the United States for the past five years will show how little influence has come to us with controlling the aggregate harvest for export purposes. The production of 1877, compared with 1878, showed a loss of 9,000,000 in the South-east States, and nearly 5,000,000 in the Pacific States, both sections from which an increased import has

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A WEEK'S EXCHANGE

An Index of the Condition of Business—Exchanges in May.

NEW YORK, June 8.—From the Public: The business transactions of May exceed those of any other month in the history of the country. About almost every other evidence of the commercial situation there may be deception or misjudgment, but payments actually effected through exchanges at all centers of trade, make their own unerring record and tell their own plain story. Last week we gave the figures for New York—the largest monthly return in the history of the clearing house—with an exchange of \$3,094,159,687. After deducting double the value of stocks sold, an amount larger by nine per cent than that of any previous month. This week we have complete returns from other cities. The aggregate for May at all cities outside of New York is \$1,250,464,380. With all annual settlements, which swell the returns for January very largely a minor part of the aggregate in that month was only \$1,238,000,000. The largest previous return for any month that of December last, was \$1,230,433,080. Special causes swelled the exchanges at some of the cities that month, and transactions of New York, exclusive of stocks, were only \$2,571,000,000. Exchanges for May and for last week, ending June 4, are shown in the following table:

| Cities | Week | Month. |
|---------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| New York | \$ 919,351,908 | \$3,094,159,687 |
| Boston | 96,651,826 | 388,164,721 |
| Chicago | 56,570,422 | 171,123,229 |
| St. Louis | 18,544,900 | 64,844,900 |
| Cincinnati | 19,778,500 | 62,915,600 |
| Philadelphia | 15,000,000 | 52,928,944 |
| Baltimore | 15,000,000 | 52,928,944 |
| San Francisco | 9,400,723 | 32,543,621 |
| Portland | 8,000,000 | 28,000,000 |
| Louisville | 7,100,122 | 24,000,711 |
| New Orleans | 7,000,122 | 24,000,711 |
| San Antonio | 6,000,000 | 20,000,000 |
| Providence | 5,000,000 | 18,000,000 |
| Cleveland | 4,000,000 | 16,000,000 |
| Indianapolis | 3,000,000 | 12,000,000 |
| Cincinnati | 2,000,000 | 8,000,000 |
| New Haven | 1,000,000 | 4,000,000 |
| Columbus | 1,000,000 | 4,000,000 |
| Springfield | 1,000,000 | 4,000,000 |
| St. Paul | 1,000,000 | 4,000,000 |
| Syracuse | 1,000,000 | 4,000,000 |
| Total | \$1,250,464,380 | \$14,141,481,407 |
| Outside of New York | \$1,250,464,380 | \$14,141,481,407 |

These records can be but an interpretation. There is no decrease in the transactions for the month at a single city, and yet May, 1880, was one of remarkable large dealings. Outside of this city the increase in the month of May is observed that the increase in exchanges at New York, less double the value of the stocks sold, is still larger, no less than 33 1/2 per cent; nor do the transactions for the first week in June appear unfavorable. Outside of New York the increase is 37 per cent larger than for the past month. At New York, either with or without deductions for operations in stocks, the increase is still larger. In short, the indications for the beginning of the new month are even more favorable than the returns for May, a month of unprecedented volume of business. Trouble may come before this month ends, but there is not the slightest sign of it thus far. On the contrary, the business of the country is already in a healthy condition, and bids fair to be relatively still more satisfactory in the future.

FRIGHT RATES.

Concerning the Reduction in Charges Announced by Commissioner Fink.

NEW YORK, June 8.—In relation to the reduction of freight rates which has been called for by the New York Central Railroad Company, a reporter interviewed Commissioner Fink to-day. He said that considerable of the matter published in both, and there was no foundation for it. He said it was accurate that on April 11th a reduction of five cents per hundred pounds was ordered in consequence of a violation of a previous agreement. He was aware that the freight charged by the Erie Railroad was largely in excess of the regular rate. The New York Central road, but since he is positive no unfair means have been used to bring about this excess. He had heard that there was to be a meeting of presidents of the different trunk lines, but he did not feel liberty to divulge where or when it was to be held. In regard to the statement published that he had received no reply from the New York Central road, he said no answer was necessary; that when one road answers the other it will carry freight for less than the regular rates, other roads have no remedy but to follow in the reduction or else stick to the former prices and as a result have all the traffic go to the road which charges the least. He said also that the Erie Railroad had not reduced its rates five cents per 100 pounds did not entirely satisfy the demand of the New York Central road, as this road is said to have proof that some other roads carried grain from Chicago to New York at a lower rate than the Erie. Fink said that the Erie road had no road had carried grain at that low rate, but if the New York Central road was not satisfied with twenty-five cents per 100 pounds it could publish a demand that the rate be made as low as it wished and it would be accomplished.

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